Stroud Rural District Council

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

AND

SANITARY INSPECTORS'

REPORTS

FOR

1895.

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22nd ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For 1895.

TO THE STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

In my Annual Report for the 22nd time, made in pursuance of the orders from the Local Government Board, I am able to say that the past year has been one unusually free from affections of an infectious character, and that there has been a slow but continuous lowering of the mortality since my first report of 1874, when the death rate was 20 per 1000, and each quinquennial period since it has been lower. This year the rate has been 14·9 per 1000 living.

The state of the district is improved, yet there remains much to be done, such as drainage, water supply, &c., and in other preventive measures.

By the absorption of Bisley District and the formation of an Urban District Council for Nailsworth, the population for the year is slightly increased. I will allude to the different subjects under their appropriate headings, simplifying and making them more readable.

Vital Statistics.

The population to the end of 1895, calculated for increase, and the addition of 2125, the difference between the population of Bisley and Nailsworth, gives a total of 29,922 persons living in the district.

The Births during the year were 673—346 males and 327 females—a rate of 22·47 per 1000 living.

The Deaths for the same period were 223 males and 224 females, a total of 447, including 23 males and 22 females in the Workhouse (a total of 45), and 8 in the Hospital, 2 males and 6 females, a rate of 14·9 per 1000 living.

The Birth and Death Rates for all England and Wales for the same period were 30·3 and 18·7 per 1000 respectively.

Epitome of Deaths at Different Ages for the Past Year.

Under 1 year ...	75	including	1	in Workhouse,	0	in Hospital	Tl.
1 and under 5 years...	34	„	0	„	1	„	109
5 „ 15 „ ...	19	„	1	„	2	„	
15 „ 25 „ ...	15	„	1	„	1	„	
25 „ 60 „ ...	90	„	4	„	2	„	124
60 „ 70 „ ...	76	„	9	„	1	„	
70 „ 80 „ ...	82	„	16	„	1	„	
80 „ 90 „ ...	50	„	14	„	0	„	
90 „ 100 „ ...	6	„	0	„	0	„	214
	447		45		8		447

Infantile Mortality.

75 children died under one year, inclusive of one in the Workhouse, a rate of 111·4 per 1000 births. For all England and Wales the rate was 161 per 1000 of births.

Causes of Death.

Measles	3	Hydrocephalus ...	4
Diarrhœa	2	Premature	11
Phthisis	1	Enteritis	3
Bronchitis	14	Marasmus	3
Injuries	1	Obstruction	1
Natural Causes ...	6	Deficient Vitality ...	2
Uncertified	4	Convulsions... ...	3
Brain	2	Difficult Birth ...	1
Peritonitis	1	Aphthœ	1
Epilepsy	1	Spina Bifida ...	1
Kidney	1	Asphyxia	1
Debility	6	Inanition	2
	42		33

214 persons died over 60 years of age, including 39 in the Workhouse and 2 in the Hospital, a rate of 7·1 per 1000 of population, and 73·5 per 1000 was the rate for all England and Wales.

38 inquests

Were held, including 2 in the Workhouse and 3 in the Hospital.

18 Injuries
2 Falls
1 Burn
4 Drowned
1 Killed by Shafting in Mill
1 Run over by Cart
1 Run over by Train
1 Crushed between Wall and Cart
1 Fractured Thigh in Epileptic Fit

Six Suicides.

3 Drowned. 2 Poison. 1 Under Train.

Fourteen Natural Causes.

Two of these were on Illegitimate Twins, newly born, probably deficient vitality.

1 Phthisis. 1 Bronchitis. 4 Heart Disease.

Nine Uncertified Deaths.

A rate of about 2 per cent. total deaths.

2 probably Premature Birth, ages 12 and 24 hours ;
1 ,, Convulsions and Bronchitis, aged 6 months ;
1 ,, Teething, aged 6 months ;
1 ,, Bronchitis, aged 2 years ;
1 ,, Rheumatic Fever and Heart Disease, aged 11 years ;
2 ,, Heart Disease, aged 52 and 76 ;
1 ,, Old Age, aged 91 years.

Table of Deaths.

From	No.	Rate per 1000	Workhouse	Hospital
Phthisis	25	0·83	4	1
Bronchitis	81	2·7	9	2
Heart Disease	51	1·7	4	0
Cancer	29	0·96	3	0

Influenza has not been prevalent as an epidemic. 11 deaths were registered, 8 of which were over 60 years of age.

Notifiable Zymotic Diseases.

83 cases of this class, and 6 deaths ; a rate of 1·34 per cent. of total deaths, 0·2 per 1000 of population. For all Engand and Wales the rate was 2·14 per 1000 living.

Scarlet Fever.

41 cases, distributed generally over the district. One death.

Diphtheria.

11 cases. 2 deaths. The Town of Painswick was the greatest sufferer, 7 cases reported there. The surroundings in all were of an unsanitary character as to drainage and water supply.

Typhoid.

13 cases reported and visited. These include two of Relapsing Fever, as the Medical Attendant was of opinion that they were of a Typhoidal character. Defective drainage, impure water and general unsanitary surroundings. 2 deaths.

Erysipelas.

16 cases. One death. Only one was of importance. Other Idiopathic.

Puerperal Fever.

No death. Two cases, one of which was of a septic character, probably owing to want of cleanliness, retained Placenta and general habits pre-disposing.

Non-Notifiable Zymotic Diseases

Caused 10 deaths ; 2 diarrhea, under one year ; 8 measles, 7 under 5, 1 over 5.

5 Schools were closed ; 3 owing to an epidemic of measles, and one of Whooping Cough.

Drainage.

Rodborough, Painswick, Woodchester Station, and Stonehouse.

Rodborough has come very much to the front owing to my reporting some houses without drainage of any kind, and damp foundations. My report with sketch in 1887 of this district was referred to at the Council Meeting, and again at a Parish Council Meeting held by wish of the District Council, and no steps have yet been taken to remedy the very unsanitary state existing for want of proper drainage, and consequently endangering the water supply, which is principally from wells.

Several houses at Cashes Green are also in a very unsatisfactory state as to drainage, and probable affecting of the water supply.

One death took place here from Typhoid Fever, and a case of Diphtheria is now under treatment, caused, I feel sure, by the unsanitary state.

This place has been a subject of report for years past, and submitted to the Council for their attention.

The drainage of Woodchester Village has been under discussion, and owing to the very unsatisfactory state of the Railway Station, I brought it before the Company, who are now about to make improvements by erecting new buildings, &c.

Water Supply.

Is in several districts previously mentioned, supplied by the Chalford Company, which is extending the mains throughout the district.

In many places the wells are mostly of a bad character.

The supply to Painswick, so often reported, is still an open question.

5 cases of overcrowding were reported, and attended to by the Inspector after my inspection.

Hospital Accommodation.

There is now no place to receive infectious cases. The site that was fixed upon on the Common, and prepared for the re-erection of the Tent was no doubt an unsuitable place.

I am of opinion that the only effective plan is for the Local Government Board to decide upon a suitable site as a morbid sentimentality on the part of the Public is a great obstacle to the adoption of any permanent place for the purpose.

ABSTRACT OF VISITS & CASES FROM MEDICAL OFFICER'S OF HEALTH BOOK.

Premises and Houses, foul and badly drained		23
Visits to close Schools		7
Certificates to Close		5
Water Supply Defective		6
Samples of Water examined		28
Overcrowding		5
Reports to Local Government Board		1
Special		1
Visits to District about		100
Cases of illness visited as to Sanitary state :—		
Typhoid	11	
Relapsing	2	
Diptheria	11	
Erysipelas	16	
Puerperal Fever	2	
Scarlet Fever	41	
		—83
Attending Rural Sanitary Authority		16
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance in three places ...		3
Letters and Post Cards		40
Special Consultations		6
Inspected case exposure Infectious Disease letter of Caution		1
Quarterly Reports		4
Special Reports, Diseased Meat		1
Attended Hospital Committees		2
Attended Parochial Committe, Rodborough		1
Inspected Bakehouses		24
Inspected Daries and Cowsheds several		
Total		357

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS PARTRIDGE,

M.O.H.

FEBRUARY 18th, 1896.

STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1895.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

For the 16th time I beg to submit my Annual Report for your consideration, giving a summary of the work that was brought under your notice by me during this year, ending 31st December, 1895.

Number of entries in Inspector's Journal	229
Number of Notices served to abate Nuisances	138
Offensive Accumulations removed	46
Dwelling-houses cleaned	4
Places where Animals were kept so as to be a Nuisance ...	10
Inspection of Bakehouses	30
Inspection of Slaughter-houses	41
Water Closets found defective and made good ...	7
Improved Privy accommodation	10
Defective house Drains made good	25
Samples of Water for Analysis	10
Improved Supplies of Water	3
Over-crowding of Dwelling-houses abated	2
Offal Boiling, so as to be a Nuisance	1
Visits to Premises where Infectious Diseases occurred ...	71
Deaths from Infectious Diseases	2
Dwelling-houses Fumigated after Infectious Disease ...	22
Consultations with the Medical Officer of Health on Sanitary Matters	123

In addition to the above many Nuisances of a minor character were dealt with, without occasion to serve notices, by my having an interview with the parties responsible for their abatement.

The Infectious Diseases Cases dealt with, were as follows :—

Name of Parish.	No. of Cases.	Name of Disease.
Painswick	4	Typhoid Fever
"	4	Scarlet Fever
"	2	Relapsing Fever
"	7	Diphtheria
"	1	Erysipelas
Whiteshill	2	Typhoid Fever
Pitchcombe	1	Erysipelas
Miserden	2	Scarlet Fever
Randwick	1	Scarlet Fever
Thrupp	1	Typhoid Fever
"	1	Diptheria
"	1	Scarlet Fever
Bisley-with-Lypiatt ...	1	Erysipelas

The directions given by the Medical Officer of Health in each of those cases were duly observed, and in some instances I supplied disinfectants where I found the occupiers not in a position to purchase them, and every available precaution was taken to prevent or check the spread of infection. With regard to the two deaths which occurred from Infectious Diseases I may mention that the bodies were buried in accordance with Section 8 of the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. The interior of all houses and articles therein likely to retain infection, were personally fumigated by me, and the necessary cleansing, limewashing, &c., received my supervision.

The following table gives the number of cases of Infectious Disease reported in each year since the Compulsory Notification Act was adopted.

Year.	No. of Cases
1891	130
1892	80
1893	47
1894	24
1895	28

During the year I discovered four dwelling-houses in different parts of the district kept in a most disgraceful state ; in some instances offensive rotten rags, and flocks heaped upon the floor on which children had to sleep, in other cases saturated beds had become matted and offensive. The rooms covered with filth and vermin to such an extent that I found it necessary to cause the bedding, &c. to be destroyed, the rooms fumigated, scrubbed, and lime-washed before the nuisance could be abated.

Several drains, ventilating shafts and other sanitary appliances were tested and examined. Those found defective were put in proper order.

The samples of water taken to the Medical Officer of Health for analysis were instances in which I had suspicion of pollution from defective drains or other soakage, and in all cases where the samples contained traces of organic pollution immediate steps were taken to discover its cause, and to prevent future contamination.

In one part of the district a great improvement has been effected by the periodical collection of all house refuse. This has done away with those offensive middens which were to be found near almost every dwelling, and if this was adopted for the Town of Painswick it would be a step in the right direction. The sanitary arrangements at this town are, as I have reported on many occasions, viz., bad drainage and water.

Several Public Elementary Schools in various parts of the district were closed for a few weeks on account of epidemics of measles and whooping cough. All necessary enquiries were made respecting those epidemics, and certificates granted by the Medical Officer of Health.

The dairies, cow sheds, milk shops, &c., were inspected at intervals and found satisfactory.

Several premises were inspected, and licenses granted under the Petroleum Act.

All cases of importance were reported to the Medical Officer of Health, and visits round the district were made with him.

I beg to remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALBERT BAILEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

February, 1896.

STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL—
No. 2, Sanitary District.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for the year 1895.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen—

I beg to submit for your further consideration the following particulars of the work and duties performed during the year.

I have recorded and previously reported in detail for your consideration the following general statement; the Parochial, Sanitary, and Drainage Reports being particulars that involved careful preparation.

Matters of General and Special Report	150
Notices served to effect Abatements	90
Bakehouses cleansed, Improved Ventilation	10
Samples of Water submitted for analysis	10
Improved Water Supplies	7
Wells cleansed	6
Defective Drains, "by test"	15
Improved Drains and Sanitary Fittings	20
Special Sanitary Reports	4
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	11
Inquiries respecting disposal of Infected Carcases	2
Cases of offensive Offal Boiling	4
Cases of Overcrowding Abatement	3
Insanitary Dwellings Improved	5
Offensive Slaughter House	1
Proceedings before the Justices	3

In pursuance of the directions of the Rural District Council, matters of importance have been reported upon, and considered by the Local Authority, respecting the means of drainage within the district.

Inspection of the district has been systematically made, and also general inspection in company with the Medical Officer of Health.

When a breach of regulations has been committed, report has been duly made, and the directions of the Council fulfilled.

Visits have been made to Milk Stores and Shops, and places kept or used for the preparation of articles intended for food, the qualities and conditions being generally satisfactory.

No directions have been given to procure and submit Samples of Food, Drink, or Drugs, under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875.

Immediate notice has been given to the Medical Officer of Health of the occurrence within the district of Infectious Disease, also respecting Insanitary and Overcrowded Dwellings.

The directions of the Council and the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health have been fulfilled. Formal Notices and Rules have been served for precautions to be taken in the following cases of Infectious Disease. By enumeration. Scarlet Fever 23, Erysipelas 6, Diphtheria 2, Typhoid 4, Puerperal 2. 37 cases. Special effort being made for prevention of Infectious Disease, and general active agency to effect, where necessary, improved sanitary conditions and surroundings.

Sanitary drainage works have been excuted by the extension of the outfall from the Sewage Tank at Minchinhampton; also an extension of the main sewer provided for the drainage of new buildings at Stonehouse; also improved means of drainage at Hamwell, Cainscross.

The whole of the main drainage works at Stonehouse being in satisfactory operation, and when necessary steps are taken respecting the Receiving Tank at Minchinhamption.

No complaint has been made respecting the sanitary condition of factories and workshops.

The duties devolving upon me under the Petroleum Acts have been carefully fulfilled, and report made. Licenses have been granted by the the Authority.

Slaughter-houses, with one exception, were generally satisfactory.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN HALL.

February, 1896.

(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the STROUD R

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages.							
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
BISLEY	25	6	2	1	1	7	8	Under 5 5 upwards
CHALFORD	42	10	4	1	1	13	13	Under 5 5 upwards
HORSLEY	12	2				5	5	Under 5 5 upwards
PAINSWICK	52	13	4	3	1	13	18	Under 5 5 upwards
CRANHAM	6	1	2			2	1	Under 5 5 upwards
PITCHCOMBE	2	1					1	Under 5 5 upwards
MISERDINE								Under 5 5 upwards
STROUD RURAL	43	8	5	3	2	10	15	Under 5 5 upwards
MINCHINHAMPTON.. ..	47	8	1	2	2	11	23	Under 5 5 upwards
RODBOROUGH..	39	9	3	1	1	15	10	Under 5 5 upwards
KING STANLEY	34	5	1		1	15	12	Under 5 5 upwards
WOODCHESTER	7	2	1			2	2	Under 5 5 upwards
STONEHOUSE	31	5	3	3	2	8	10	Under 5 5 upwards
CAINSCROSS	29	2	3	1	1	8	14	Under 5 5 upwards
LEONARD STANLEY ..	15	1	3			3	8	Under 5 5 upwards
RANDWICK	10	1	1	1	1	1	5	Under 5 5 upwards
WORKHOUSE	45	1		1	1	8	34	Under 5 5 upwards
HOSPITAL	8		1	2	1	2	2	Under 5 5 upwards
Totals ..	447	75	34	19	15	123	181	Under 5 5 upwards

DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.													
Diphtheria.	Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid.	Fevers. Relapsing	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
								2			1	5	8
								3	4			10	17
					1			4				9	14
				1			2	4	4		2	15	28
												2	2
							1	2		1		6	10
				1	1			5				10	17
1		1					3	7	3	2		18	35
								1				2	3
							1		1			1	3
												1	1
									1				1
				1				3				9	13
							4	3	6	1	4	12	30
								4			1	4	9
						1		7	9	1	3	17	38
								4			1	7	12
							2	5	2	1	1	16	27
				1				1				4	6
			1				2	5	4	2		14	28
									1			2	3
									3			1	4
								2				6	8
1							1	1	2		5	13	23
								2				3	5
	1						2	3	3	1		14	24
				3				1					4
							1		2	2		6	11
				1			1						2
								1	2			4	8
												1	1
							4	9	4			27	44
											1		1
							1	2			1	3	7
				7	2		1	29	1		4	65	109
2	1	1	1	1		1	24	52	50	11	16	177	338

(B) **TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND**
to the knowledge of the Medical Of
RURAL DISTRICT; classified accor

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.	
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1895
BISLEY		
CHALFORD		
HORSLEY		
PAINSWICK		
CRANHAM		
PITCHCOMBE		
MISERDEN		
STROUD RURAL		
MINCHINHAMPTON ..		
RODBOROUGH..		
KING STANLEY		
WOODCHESTER		
STONEHOUSE		
CAINSCROSS		
LEONARD STANLEY ..		
RANDWICK		
Totals ..	27,195	29,922

NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming of Health, during the Year 1895, in the STROUD to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Aged under 5 or over 5.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.					
			Fevers.			
	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Relapsing.	Puerperal	Erysipelas.
Under 5 5 upwards	1					1
Under 5 5 upwards						
Under 5 5 upwards	1	1				1
Under 5 5 upwards	4	7	4	2		3
Under 5 5 upwards						
Under 5 5 upwards						1
Under 5 5 upwards	2					
Under 5 5 upwards	2	1	3			
Under 5 5 upwards					1	1
Under 5 5 upwards	4	1				1
Under 5 5 upwards	2		1			2
Under 5 5 upwards						1
Uuder 5 5 upwards	4	1	1		1	4
Under 5 5 upwards	11		1			
Under 5 5 upwards						
Under 5 5 upwards	10		1			1
Under 5 5 upwards	41	11	11	2	2	16

SPECIAL REPORT.

To the Secretary of the Local Government Board.

February 1st, 1896.

SIR,

I beg to inform the Local Government Board that a case of Small-Pox was reported to me in a man residing at Tower Hill, Stroud, on the 27th January last, and that he, William Cox, aged 75 years, died this morning at 12.30. I am unable to trace the origin of the case. As a cattle drover, &c., he was about the country a good deal, and was taken ill at a lodging house in the town. We had no means of isolation except by adopting the top room of the place which the lodgers used, and they left in a day or two after the illness began. All precautions that could be were taken to prevent the disease spreading, so far as we were able, without a place set apart for the purpose. The history of the riot, &c., in connection with the removal of the man to a Temporary Hospital is no doubt known to the Local Government Board, as it happened last Wednesday abont 12.30 a.m., and he had to be brought back here instead of being deposited in the Hospital provided 6 miles away on the top of the hills. He had been very imperfectly vaccinated in infancy, and had only one very indistinct mark visible on the left arm. The Inspector is carrying out all orders and precautions.

Added Feb. 6th.—I have since ascertained that he had been to Gloucester, several times visiting his son who lives there, and believe that the disease was contracted at that time.

I remain, your obedient Servant,

THOMAS PARTRIDGE, M.O.H.